

Final Report of Child Fatality or Near Fatality

Date Prepared: 8/7/14
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P.O. Box 1520
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DOB: 10/05/11 Race: W Gender: M

Type of Report: X Fatality Near Fatality

Date of Fatality or Near Fatality: 06/08/12

Cause and Circumstances of the Child Fatality or Near Fatality

Date Report Accepted for Investigation: 06/08/12

Summary of Allegations: On 6/8/12, SCDSS received a report alleging a 7-month-old child was found dead in the home. The home was cluttered and the room where the child and his sibling were sleeping was unsafe for the children. Children were sleeping on the floor or the deceased child was sleeping in the bed with his parents. The mother and the father suffer from mental health concerns.

Date Investigation Initiated: 6/8/12

Case Decision: The case was indicated for medical neglect, neglect, and substantial risk of physical abuse.

Date of Case Decision: 06/20/12

Basis for Case Decision: The father admitted he attempted to conceal the child's death after noticing the child was unresponsive while in his arms. The home was found to be unsafe and cluttered.

The Department's Response After the Fatality or Near Fatality

The sibling of the deceased child was placed in foster care and subsequently adopted.

SCDSS did not offer or provide any services to the parents.

The sibling of the deceased child was placed in foster care and subsequently adopted. The case was closed on 6/6/14.

Previous Child Abuse or Neglect Investigations that are Pertinent to the Child Fatality or Near Fatality. Note: State law prohibits disclosure of records or information contained in unfounded reports.

Case ID #: 0001118932

Date Investigation Initiated: 4/20/10

Summary of Allegations: On 4/20/10, SCDSS received a report that the mother was neglecting her daughter. The reporter alleged the mother suffers from depression. The reporter stated the home was dirty, filled with animal feces. The reporter stated a 7-month-old child had a MRI done to see if there was evidence of failure to thrive. The reporter stated the child weighed 15 pounds at 7 months. The mother did not know how to care for the child and the child was not fed properly. The reporter stated if the mother was not feeling well she would not touch the child for 4 to 5 hrs. The reporter stated some drinking was occurring in the home.

Case Decision: The case was indicated for neglect by the mother and the father.

Date of Case Decision: 5/18/10

Basis for Case Decision: On April 21, 2010 an unannounced initial contact home visit was completed at the residence. The home was observed to be in deplorable condition. The kitchen was not clean, with dirty dishes, molded and spoiled food on countertops, the stove, and the floor. The living room area was not clean and was cluttered with clothes on the floor, trash, paper, plastic bags, shoes, DVD's, empty soda cans, dog food, and open food containers that were attracting pests. The bedrooms and bathroom were unsafe and unsanitary. The entire home had a foul odor.

The child was placed in foster care on 4/21/10.

Services offered to the family included family and individual counseling, parenting education, and SCDSS case management and monitoring.

The case was closed on 7/23/11.